



Town of Blades  
OFFICE OF MAYOR & COUNCIL  
20 W Fourth Street  
Blades, Delaware 19973-4122  
(P) 302.629.7366 (F) 302.629.0199

***Town Council Meeting  
Hardin Hall  
7:00PM  
December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017***

Opened with a Public Hearing. Mike Jones with Community Development Block Grant presented what CDBG is and how it has assisted the town property owners with much needed home improvements over many years and this year with have property owners receiving over 65k in free repairs on their homes.

**Mayor opened meeting at 7:11pm**

Present: Mayor David Ruff, Vice Mayor Lee Benningfield, Councilman Russell Joseph, Councilman BJ Hardin; Town Administrator Vikki Prettyman

Meeting Opened at 7:11 pm with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Town Council Meeting minutes; motion to accept in written form by Councilman Joseph; seconded by Councilman Hardin; motion passed.

Police Report – submitted by Chief Anthony, read by Commission Benningfield.

BEDCO – no minutes at the time of this meeting.

P&Z – no meeting in December

❖ **Committee Reports:**

- Housing/Code – report submitted by Marcus Trammell; read by Commissioner Reiss.
- Water report - submitted by Brandon Slater, read by Commissioner Hardin.
- Streets - No written report. Commissioner Joseph stated that he met with the maintenance dept several time regarding patches in town, paving is being scheduled for this week.
- Parks & Cemeteries – no written report, Commissioner Hudson is working on getting grants to pay for new equipment.
- Police Report – Report in writing.
- Mayor's Report – Mayor Ruff submitted report in writing.

❖ **New Business:**

- 2018 Budget Resolution: Vice Mayor Benningfield motioned to approve; Councilman Hudson seconded; roll call vote; all councilman voted to approve the budget resolution except for Councilman Reiss with a no vote; motion carried.
- New Construction Building Fee Reduction Resolution: Motion to approve by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Hardin; motion carried.
- Christmas Light Contest: Judging on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December after 5pm. Winners will be announced on the 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Joe McCabe: Recognition for the Kids Christmas Bazaar this year (17 years).
- Christmas Eve falls on Sunday and Christmas Day falls on Monday. The county is closed on Monday and Tuesday. The town hall will be closed Monday but is there



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any consideration for Tuesday? No consideration by council. Motion to not consider by Councilman Joseph; motion seconded by Councilman Hardin; motion carried 3 to 2.

- CDBG Resolution: motion to approve R02 by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Hardin; motion carried. R03 motion to approve by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Benningfield; motion carried.
- Staff bonuses: Motion made by Councilman Reiss for 100 staff bonus, did not receive a second; motion did not carry. Motion by Councilman Hudson for a 200 staff bonus; seconded by Councilman Reiss; motion carried.

❖ Good of the Community

- Barry C. wanted to know the future plans for the old Nanticoke Cleaners. It is a brownfield zone so we can't touch it.
- Councilman Joseph feels that additional fill dirt needs to be brought in on the Snell property. Councilman Reiss and Marcus will discuss.
- Starr K. wants to know when the fire hydrants will be painted and the water tower reconditioned. We are working on it now and funding was put into the budget for 2018.
- Starr K. wanted to know why Councilman Reiss voted no on the budget, Councilman Reiss responded with "for a personal reason".

Request from Councilman Reiss for an executive session for personal reasons.

General Session paused at 8pm.

Mayor closed the meeting at 8:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Vikki Prettyman  
Town Administrator